

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

**Please revise the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 17 and ending on page 4, line 29 of the originally filed Specification as follows:**

The substantially hemispherical socket shell 18 is recessed by means of an accommodating space 24, which is open to the equatorial plane. The accommodating space 24 has rotational symmetry with respect to the mid-axis 26 of the socket shell 18. The accommodating space 24 has an internal surface 28 in the form of a straight circular cone (i.e., having an infinite radius of curvature) which becomes narrower from the opening located in the equatorial plane towards the pole of the socket shell 18. The base 30 of the accommodating space 24 in the pole region is flattened off. The cone angle of the conical inner surface 28, that is to say the angle included between the axis of rotation 26 and the lateral line of the inner surface 28, is so selected in dependence on the material pairing of socket shell 18 and socket insert 20 that self-retaining will come about. That angle is preferably about from 4° to 10°. In the case of a metallic socket shell 18, for example, a self-retaining cone angle of about 4.5° is established for a metallic socket insert 20 and a self-retaining cone angle of about 9.5° for a ceramic socket insert 20.